

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/662,060

Examiner

Marthe Y Marc-Coleman

Applicant(s)

HARTZHEIM, ANTHONY A.

Art Unit

3661

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/12/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/21/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.



MARTHE Y. MARC-COLEMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In regard to claim 1, the prior art of records fails to disclose:

"A method of operating a gas turbine engine upon the occurrence of an offload condition, the method comprising the steps of: a) creating a table of minimum fuel flow rates that will not cause blowout using rotational speed and inlet temperature as the table parameters; b) creating a function to determine a fuel valve position based on a fuel flow rate accessed from the table; c) defining a variance from synchronous speed; d) placing a load on a turbine drive shaft; e) accelerating the turbine drive shaft to synchronous speed; f) removing the load from the turbine drive shaft; g) detecting the removal of the load from the turbine drive shaft; h) enabling a control system; i) determining if the current speed of the turbine drive shaft is within the predefined variance; j) exiting the control system if the current speed is within the predefined variance; k) enabling a PID controller within the control system; l) requesting a speed for the turbine drive shaft by the control system; m) requesting a fuel valve position by the control system based on the requested speed through the PID controller; n) requesting a fuel flow rate from the table by the control system; o) requesting a fuel valve position through the function by the control system; p) positioning the fuel valve according to the fuel valve position requested through the PID controller if the requested position does not allow less fuel to the combustion chamber than the fuel valve position requested through the function; q) positioning the fuel valve according to the fuel valve position

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requested through the function if the fuel valve position requested through the PID controller allows less fuel through to the combustion chamber than the fuel valve position requested through the function; r) turning on an ignitor if the fuel valve position used was requested through the function; s) maintaining the burning of the ignitor until the fuel valve position used is requested through the PID controller; t) turning off the ignitor if the fuel valve position used is requested through the PID controller; u) maintaining the ignitor in an off position until the fuel valve position used is requested through the function; and v) repeating steps (i)-(u) until synchronous speed is reached.”.

In regard to claim 2, the prior art of records fails to disclose:

“c) requesting a speed for the turbine drive shaft and a fuel valve position by the control system based on the requested speed through the controller; d) requesting a fuel flow rate by the control system that allows the least amount of fuel into a combustion chamber of the gas turbine engine without causing blowout; e) requesting a fuel valve position through a function by the control system based on the requested fuel flow rate that allows the least amount of fuel into a combustion chamber of the gas turbine engine without causing blowout; and f) positioning the fuel valve according to the fuel valve position requested through the controller if the requested position does not allow less fuel to the combustion chamber than the fuel valve position requested through the function.”.

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Conclusion

2 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marthe Y Marc-Coleman whose telephone number is (703) 305-4970. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:30 AM - 8:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tomas G Black can be reached on (703) 305-8233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner
Marthe Y. Marc-Coleman
Marthe Y. Marc-Coleman

August 5, 2004

MARTHE Y. MARC-COLEMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER